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USDA NASS Colorado Field Office
PO Box 150969 Lakewood, CO 80215
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Phone: (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202 FAX: (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

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MILK PRODUCTION SEPTEMBER 2005

Colorado dairy herds produced 197 million pounds of milk during the September 2005 period, 9 percent above the 180 million pounds produced during the same period in 2004. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 106,000, up 3,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 1,855 pounds for September, 6 percent above the 1,750 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during September totaled 13.0 billion pounds, up 4.9 percent from September 2004. August revised production, at 13.6 billion pounds, was up 4.8 percent from August 2004. The August revision represented an increase of 22 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,597 pounds for September, 64 pounds above September 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 54,000 head more than September 2004, and 1,000 head more than August 2005.

Milk production in the U.S. during the July-September quarter totaled 44.0 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from the July-September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.05 million head, 27,000 head more than the same period last year.

Colorado and U. S. Milk Production, September, 2004-05

Item	Unit	2004	2005
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	103	106
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,750	1,855
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	180	197
United States:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 head	8,104	8,158
Production per cow <u>2/</u>	Pounds	1,533	1,597
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. lbs.	12,426	13,032

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

ONIONS

Colorado growers now expect to produce 4.18 million cwt of summer storage onions this year, down 24 percent from the 5.50 million cwt produced in 2004. This year's harvested area of 9,500 acres is down 14 percent from 11,000 acres harvested last year. The 2005 crop average yield per acre is forecast at 440 cwt, down from 500 cwt per acre a year ago.

Summer storage onion production for the United States is forecast at 49.7 million hundredweight, down 14 percent from last year. Storage onion harvested area is forecast at 103,620 acres, down 5 percent from 2004. California production, at 11.6 million hundredweight, is 6 percent below 2004. Harvested area is expected to be 27,500 acres, down 4 percent from last year.

Onions for Fresh Market 2004-2005 Crops

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2004	for 2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Spring <u>1/</u>	35,700	34,100	337	310	12,031	10,563
Summer:						
Non-Storage	23,200	22,400	521	488	12,098	10,920
Storage <u>1/</u> :						
CA <u>2/</u>	28,500	27,500	430	420	12,255	11,550
CO	11,000	9,500	500	440	5,500	4,180
ID	10,400	9,500	770	700	8,008	6,650
MI	3,200	3,300	290	260	928	858
MN.....	<u>3/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>4/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>4/</u>
NY	13,000	12,700	400	260	5,200	3,302
OH	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>	<u>5/</u>
OR-Malheur...	11,100	11,000	780	600	8,658	6,600
OR-West	7,400	7,000	570	500	4,218	3,500
UT.....	1,500	<u>6/</u>	520	<u>6/</u>	780	<u>6/</u>
WA	20,000	19,500	580	600	11,600	11,700
WI.....	1,900	1,700	320	330	608	561
Subtotal.....	108,550	103,620	534	480	57,933	49,717
Total Summer ...	131,750	126,020	532	481	70,031	60,637
U.S.....	167,450	160,120	490	445	82,062	71,200

1/ Primarily fresh market except CA. 2/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing. 3/ 2004 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 4/ Estimates discontinued in 2005. 5/ 2004 and 2005 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 6/ 2005 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

CROP PRODUCTION

OCTOBER 1, 2005

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado's corn for grain production is now forecast at 120.15 million bushels, down 14 percent from last year's crop of 140.40 million bushels and down 2 percent from the September 1 forecast. Average yield is forecast at 135.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from last year but 5 bushels above the September 1 forecast. Area intended for grain was decreased 50,000 acres from September 1, to 890,000 based on Farm Service Agency (FSA) administrative information.

Sorghum for grain production for 2005 is now expected to total 3.24 million bushels, down 25 percent from the September 1 forecast and 40 percent below last year's crop. Average yield remains at 27.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels below last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain was decreased 40,000 acres from the September 1 forecast to 120,000 acres based on FSA administrative information, and is down 33 percent from 2004.

Sugarbeet production was forecast at 774,000 tons, down 8 percent from the previous year's crop. Yields are expected to average 22.5 tons per acre compared with 25.0 tons per acre last year. The area for harvest is expected to total 34,400 acres, up from 33,500 acres harvested last year.

The initial forecast of all sunflower production was placed at 277.2 million pounds, up 89 percent from the 2004 crop of 146.7 million pounds. The average expected yield of 1,400 pounds per acre is 207 pounds above last year and a new record high for the State. Area for harvest, at 198,000 acres, was increased 30,000 acres from the June 1 forecast based on FSA administrative information and is up 61 percent from 123,000 acres harvested a year ago.

Alfalfa hay production is forecast at 2,664,000 tons, up 123,000 tons from 2,541,000 tons produced last year. All other hay production is forecast at 1,095,000 tons, down 30,000 tons from last year's production.

Expected dry bean production, at 1.914 million hundredweight, is up 84 percent from last year. The average expected yield of 1,650 pounds per acre is 100 pounds above the 2004 yield and area for harvest is up 49,000 acres to 116,000 acres.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 10.9 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month but 8 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest crop on record. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 146.1 bushels per acre, up 2.9 bushels from September but 14.3 bushels below last year. Based on administrative data, updates to planted acreage were made in several States bringing total planted corn acres to 81.6 million

acres, up 50,000 acres from June. Acreage harvested and to be harvested for grain was also updated in a number of States and is now forecast at 74.3 million acres, up 15,000 acres from September and 1 percent higher than 2004.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.97 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the September forecast but 5 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of October 1, yield is expected to average 41.6 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from September but 0.6 bushel below last year's record high yield. Area planted is now estimated at 72.2 million acres, down 903,000 acres from the August estimate. Area for harvest is forecast at 71.3 million acres, down 914,000 acres from September.

Sorghum production is forecast at 375 million bushels, down 6 percent from last month and down 18 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, the sorghum yield forecast is 66.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from September but down 3.8 bushels from last year. Area for harvest as grain is forecast at 5.69 million acres, down 6 percent from last month and 13 percent below last year. Based on administrative information, acreage updates were made in several States. Planted area was updated to 6.50 million acres, down 7 percent from the June estimate and down 13 percent from 2004.

The first sunflower production forecast for 2005 is 3.87 billion pounds, up 89 percent from 2004 and 45 percent above 2003. Area planted, at 2.71 million acres, is down fractionally from the June estimate but up 44 percent from last year. Sunflower farmers expect to harvest 2.58 million acres, down 3,000 from June but up 51 percent from the 2004 acreage. The October yield forecast, at 1,500 pounds, is 302 pounds more than the 2004 yield.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 26.1 million cwt for 2005, up 1 percent from the August forecast and 47 percent above last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.52 million acres, 1 percent below the August forecast but up 25 percent from last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,715 pounds per acre, an increase of 28 pounds from the August forecast and 255 pounds above last year. Planted acres are estimated at 1.66 million acres, a decrease of 1 percent from earlier forecasts but a 23 percent increase from 2004.

Sugarbeet production for 2005 is forecast at 26.7 million tons, 2 percent above the September forecast but 11 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 21.5 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from September but 1.4 tons below 2004. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.24 million acres, virtually the same as last month but 5 percent below last year.

Final production forecast for the 2005 apple crop year is 9.38 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the August 1 forecast and 10 percent below 2004.

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Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2004-2005

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005		2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,200	1,100	1,040	890	Bu.	135.0	135.0	140,400	120,150
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	280	200	180	120	Bu.	30.0	27.0	5,400	3,240
All Wheat	2,315	2,570	1,714	2,219	Bu.	27.4	24.4	46,880	54,035
Winter Wheat	2,300	2,550	1,700	2,200	Bu.	27.0	24.0	45,900	52,800
Spring Wheat.....	15	20	14	19	Bu.	70.0	65.0	980	1,235
Oats	75	75	20	15	Bu.	55.0	75.0	1,100	1,125
Barley.....	80	60	77	59	Bu.	118.0	130.0	9,086	7,670
Proso Millet.....	370	320	330	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	24.0	<u>4/</u>	7,920	<u>4/</u>
All Hay .....	...	...	1,520	1,470	Tons	2.41	2.46	3,666	3,611
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	770	740	Tons	3.30	3.60	2,541	2,664
Other Hay .....	...	...	750	730	Tons	1.50	1.50	1,125	1,095
Sugarbeets	36.0	35.0	33.5	34.4	Tons	25.0	22.5	838	774
Dry edible beans.....	75.0	130.0	67.0	116.0	Cwt.	15.50	16.50	1,039	1,914
Sunflowers, All	135	180	123	198	Lbs.	1,193	1,400	146,700	277,200
Sunflowers, Oil	90	130	80	140	Lbs.	1,350	<u>4/</u>	108,000	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	45	50	43	58	Lbs.	900	<u>4/</u>	38,700	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes	70.8	63.1	70.0	62.8	Cwt.	360	<u>5/</u>	25,786	<u>5/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	5.8	4.9	5.7	4.8	Cwt.	350	365	1,995	1,752
Fall potatoes	65.0	58.2	64.3	58.0	Cwt.	370	<u>5/</u>	23,791	<u>5/</u>
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	28,000	28,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	13.0	12.0
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	2.6	2.8
Tart Cherries .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	200	<u>6/</u>
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	80,930	81,642	73,632	74,333	Bu.	160.4	146.1	11,807,217	10,857,440
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	7,486	6,495	6,517	5,687	Bu.	69.8	66.0	454,899	375,105
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	59,674	57,091	49,999	49,980	Bu.	43.2	42.0	2,158,245	2,098,270
Winter Wheat	43,350	40,320	34,462	33,680	Bu.	43.5	44.4	1,499,434	1,493,769
Spring Wheat.....	13,763	14,036	13,174	13,609	Bu.	43.2	37.1	568,918	504,456
Oats	4,085	4,240	1,787	1,823	Bu.	64.7	63.1	115,695	115,002
Barley	4,527	3,922	4,021	3,276	Bu.	69.6	64.8	279,743	212,196
Rye	1,380	1,433	300.0	279.0	Bu.	27.5	27.0	8,255	7,537
Proso Millet.....	710	590	595	<u>4/</u>	Bu.	25.3	<u>4/</u>	15,065	<u>4/</u>
All Hay .....	...	...	61,916	61,723	Tons	2.55	2.48	157,774	152,871
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	21,707	22,118	Tons	3.47	3.43	75,383	75,940
Other Hay .....	...	...	40,209	39,605	Tons	2.05	1.94	82,391	76,931
Sugarbeets	1,345.9	1,284.6	1,306.9	1,243.3	Tons	22.9	21.5	29,956	26,746
Dry edible beans.....	1,354.3	1,659.8	1,219.3	1,522.1	Cwt.	1,460	1,715	17,799	26,109
Sunflowers, All	1,873	2,706	1,711	2,581	Lbs.	1,198	1,500	2,049,613	3,870,910
Sunflowers, Oil	1,533	2,176	1,424	2,013	Lbs.	1,238	<u>4/</u>	1,763,378	<u>4/</u>
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	340	538	287	568	Lbs.	997	<u>4/</u>	286,235	<u>4/</u>
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,193.4	1,106.4	1,166.9	1,088.2	Cwt.	391	<u>5/</u>	456,041	<u>5/</u>
Summer potatoes.....	58.4	50.3	53.9	48.3	Cwt.	340	334	18,307	16,123
Fall potatoes	1,039.7	970.4	1,022.3	955.7	Cwt.	401	<u>5/</u>	410,023	<u>5/</u>
Soybeans	75,208	73,103	73,958	71,270	Bu.	42.2	41.6	3,123,686	2,967,075
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	10,419.9	9,379.1
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	1,307.1	1,233.9
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	890.3	853.0
Tart Cherries .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	213,000	244,200

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2006. 5/ Nov. 10, 2005. 6/ Discontinued 05

(Continued from page 2)

Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures production is forecast at 77.4 million tons, virtually unchanged from the August forecast but up 1 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 3.48 tons per acre, unchanged from August but 0.24 ton above last year. Harvested area is 22.2 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 6 percent from 2003.

Other Hay production is forecast at 88.5 million tons, up 5 percent from August and up 10 percent from 2003. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.25 tons, up 0.10 ton from August and 0.22 ton above last year. If realized, both yield and production would be the highest on record. Harvested area is 39.4 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but down 1 percent from the previous year.

Sugarbeet production for 2004 is forecast at 28.8 million tons, 1 percent above the September forecast but 6 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 21.7 tons per acre, up 0.2 ton from September but 1.0 ton below 2003. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.33 million acres, virtually unchanged from last month but 2 percent below last year.

The final **apple production** forecast for the 2004 crop year is 9.46 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the August 1 forecast and 10 percent above 2003. Of the 7 States making October 1 production forecasts, New York and Washington increased from the August 1 forecast, Virginia and West Virginia remained unchanged, while Michigan, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania decreased from August.

Growers in the Eastern and Central apple producing regions are expecting decreases in production from the August 1 forecast, while producers in the Western region are expecting an increase. Compared to 2003, production increases in the Eastern and Western States more than offset decreases in the Central States.

TURKEY HATCHERY

Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 2005, in the United States totaled 26.7 million, up slightly from October 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were 5 percent below the September 1, 2005 total of 28.2 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central up 1 percent, West North Central up 2 percent, North and South Atlantic up 3 percent, South Central down 24 percent, and West down 1 percent.

The 22.7 million poults placed during September 2005 in the United States were up 7 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 5 percent from August 2005. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central up 10 percent, West North Central up 13 percent, North and South Atlantic up 5 percent, South Central down 15 percent, and West up 8 percent.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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Oct. 21 - Cold Storage
Oct. 21 - Chickens and Eggs
Oct. 21 - Livestock Slaughter
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R. René Picanso
Director

Steve Anderson
Deputy Director